

Hindi Month

3941. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether September, 1996 is being celebrated as Hindi month.

(b) whether any assessment regarding the use of Hindi is likely to be made in this month; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to promote the use of Hindi?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) . (a) "Hindi Fortnight" is being celebrated this year from 1st September, to 15th September, 1996

(b) and (c) To review the quarterly progress reports received from Central Government Offices regarding the work done in Official Language Hindi in these Offices, to fix the targets after preparing annual programme and after obtaining report in regard to their implementation, submission of Annual Assessment Report before the Parliament, etc., are the regular functions of this Department. No special assessments has been proposed to assess the progress of work being done in Official Language Hindi.

Shifting of B.S.F. Staff

3942. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the entire staff of the intelligence branch of B.S.F. posted at Gurdaspur, Amritsar and Firozpur has been shifted recently following the arrest of a Joint Assistant Director for his alleged involvement in smuggling of the narcotics;

(b) whether the Government have initiated any enquiries against these officials and some of their predecessors for acquisition of assets disproportionate to their known sources of income; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) . (a) BSF have reported that all the members of Intelligence Branch posted at Amritsar have been shifted after the arrest of Joint Assistant Director for his alleged involvement in smuggling of narcotics consignments. As regards transfer of officials posted at Gurdaspur and Ferozpur, it has been reported that only those officials who had completed their normal tenure of posting have been shifted.

(b) and (c) BSF have informed that whenever such cases come to notice, discreet enquiries are made by the

Vigilance Branch and the competent authority initiates disciplinary action against the delinquent as per BSF Act and Rules if there is *prima facie* case or involvement. Accordingly an enquiry to assess the assets of one official has been ordered by BSF.

Fake Railway Passes

3943. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a well organized racket in the fake Railway passes is thriving in Bihar for the past several years;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard, and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the steps taken to countenance this racket in the fake Railway passes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) . (a) to (c) Government is not aware of any well organized racket in the fake Railway passes thriving in Bihar. However, during the last 2½ years, 7 isolated cases of sale/travel on fake Railway passes have been detected and since outsiders are involved in these cases, the same were referred to CBI/Police for investigation. Reports from them are still awaited.

Frequent checks are being conducted by vigilance and Commercial Departments at Reservation Offices, in running trains and on platforms to detect such instances.

Funds for Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Karnataka

3944. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance provided to Karnataka during the Eighth plan for the implementation of various centrally sponsored schemes for increasing the agricultural production in the state; and

(b) the number of farmers benefitted as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The financial assistance provided to the Government of Karnataka during the Eighth Plan for implementation of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes for increasing the agricultural production in the State is given in enclosed statement. It is difficult to quantify the number of farmers benefitted as a result of implementation of the schemes as benefits flow both directly and indirectly.